

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 5-7, 10-12 and 16-18 are pending in this application.

Claims 1-3, 5-7, 10-12 and 16-18 are rejected.

Claims 1 and 16 are amended.

Claim 10 is cancelled.

Claims 1-3, 5-7, 11-12 and 16-18 are now pending.

35 U.S.C § 112, second paragraph

Applicants have amended claim 16 as suggested by the Examiner by deleting "a" before "solid grade".

35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

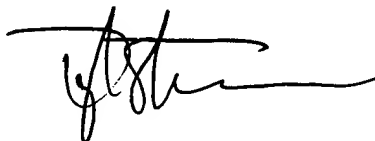
Claims 1-3, 5-7 and 10-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pearson in view of Quinn et al and Pickering et al. Applicants have amended claim 1 as suggested by the Examiner to more particularly point out and distinctly claim their invention. Claim 1 has been amended to include a step for forming a stack of a rigidifying aqueous material, wherein aqueous liquid is released from the rigidifying aqueous material. Support for the amendment can be found on page 15, third paragraph. Furthermore, the limitations of claim 10 are incorporated into claim 1 to further distinguish the invention. No new matter has been added.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the 103(a) and 112, second paragraph rejections is respectfully requested in light of the amendments above.

Since there are no other grounds of objection or rejection, passage of this application to issue with claims 1-3, 5-7, 11-12 and 16-18 is earnestly solicited.

Applicants submit that the present application is in condition for allowance. In the event that minor amendments will further prosecution, Applicants request that the examiner contact the undersigned representative.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tyler Stevenson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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